

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Under the heading "Related Applications," please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1; line 3 and ending at line 18 as follows:

C' This application is related to copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,759, entitled "FUSED SWITCH CORE AND METHOD FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,746, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TRANSPORTING SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS TRAFFIC ON A BUS OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,829, entitled "RATE ADJUSTABLE BACKPLANE AND METHOD FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,830, entitled "ASYNCHRONOUS TRANSFER MODE (ATM) SWITCH AND METHOD FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,751, entitled "SYNCHRONOUS SWITCH AND METHOD FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE;" and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/452,828, entitled "TIME SLOT INTERCHANGER (TSI) AND METHOD FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE."